

UNITED STATES OFFICE OF  
GOVERNMENT ETHICS



February 22, 2019

**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY**

Michael Best

MuckRock

[32987-40497258@requests.muckrock.com](mailto:32987-40497258@requests.muckrock.com)

Tracking No: OGE FOIA FY 17/169

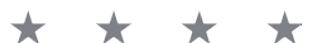
Dear Mr. Best:

The U.S. Office of Government Ethics (OGE) is granting in part and denying in part to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, dated February 6, 2017. In your request, you asked for copies of all emails from the domain EOP.gov to senior managers encompassed within the required agency system for retaining emails of senior officials, from January 20 to the present.

OGE is responding to your request on a rolling basis. Your request has been combined with a broader request for processing and the records provided to you may contain records not specifically responsive to your request. Enclosed please find 137 pages, subject to deletions made in accordance with FOIA Exemption 5, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(5), as inter- and intra-agency predecisional deliberative process material, and FOIA Exemption 6, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6), as information the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. The deletions are each marked with a reference “(b)(5)” or “(b)(6)” in the enclosed copies. Please note that attachments to emails were determined to be nonresponsive records.

In searching for responsive records, OGE located eight pages of records, which originated at the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative. We are therefore sending these responsive materials, along with a copy of your request, to the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative. The FOIA Requester Service Center phone number is 202-395-3419. We are asking the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative to review the material and respond directly to you.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss any aspect of your request, you may contact me by telephone at 202-482-9267. As OGE’s FOIA Public Liaison, I am available for assisting in reducing delays, increasing transparency and understanding of the status of requests, and assisting in the resolution of disputes. Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records



Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov); telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

The OGE official responsible for this FOIA determination is the undersigned. In accordance with the FOIA, as codified at 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(A), and OGE's updated FOIA regulations, at 5 C.F.R. § 2604.304, you may administratively appeal this determination to the Program Counsel, U.S. Office of Government Ethics, 1201 New York Avenue, N.W., Suite 500, Washington, DC 20005-3917. Any such appeal must be in writing and must be sent within 90 days of the date you receive this response letter. If you do appeal, you should include copies of your request and this response, together with a statement of why you believe this initial determination is in error. Also, if you appeal, you should clearly indicate on the envelope and in the letter that it is a "Freedom of Information Act Appeal."

Sincerely,

Rachel K. Dowell  
OGE FOIA Officer

Enclosure